

Currently serving as Director Health System Development at World Health Organization, Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean based in Cairo, Dr. Mirza is responsible for 22 countries spread over the Middle East, North Africa and Western Asia. His portfolio covers universal health coverage, health governance and financing, health workforce development, integrated health service delivery and pharmaceuticals.

Dr. Mirza has previously served as the WHO Representative in Islamic Republic of Iran (acting), the Team leader Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property at WHO, Geneva, the Regional Adviser Essential Medicines and Pharmaceutical Policies in Cairo, the Founding National Coordinator and the Network for Consumer Protection in Pakistan. He is an Eisenhower Fellow (2004) and Britannia Scholar (1994). He has been on the faculty of Boston School of Public Health and Federal Health Services Academy of Pakistan.

Among his important national contributions: the “Prohibition of Smoking in Enclosed Places and Protection of Non-smokers Health Ordinance” in 2002, the “Protection of Breast-feeding and Child Nutrition Ordinance” in 2002, the “first National Essential Medicines List” and the “first National Medicines Policy”. He has many national and international publications including co-authoring a milestone joint publication by WHO, WTO and WIPO: “Promoting Access to Medical Technologies and Innovation – Intersections between Public Health, Intellectual Property and Trade”. He also attended ten World Health Assemblies, three WTO Ministerial Conferences and two World Consumer Congresses and have presented papers in many other global meetings.

Dr. Mirza led the development of Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Development Strategy for Ethiopia and he translated Seven Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen Covey in Urdu.